

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/026,450
Response dated February 6, 2004
Reply to OA of October 6, 2003

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Amend the specification as follows:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 2 with the following new paragraph:

Thus, in countries other than Japan, providing provision of payment-dedicated machine machines is enough in many cases because of differences in matters of each country or differences in local areas of one country, etc., and demands for receipt of money greatly vary even when transactions for receipt of money are required. Here, when services for carrying out receipt of money are required, even if a demand for receipt of money is remarkably poor compared to a demand for payment, it is necessary to provide a payment-dedicated machine and a receipt-dedicated machine side by side or to provide a recycle machine like in the case of a great demand for receipt of money. As a result, in order to satisfy a poor demand for receipt of money, it is necessary to invest a large amount of money which is as much as that in the case of a great demand for receipt of money and disproportionate to a poor demand for receipt of money, and such investment will be wasted.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 11 with the following new paragraph:

To achieve the above-mentioned object, the present invention also provides the second paper processing apparatus comprising a paper delivery unit in which papers are fed one by one from a first paper storing section for storing papers to be delivered to an exterior, conveyed on a predetermined first conveyance path, temporarily stored in a predetermined temporary storing section, and then delivered from a predetermined paper delivery section in a block to the exterior, and also papers

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having difficulties with delivery after being fed from the first paper storing section are led to a second conveyance path which is a divergent path of the first conveyance path and stored in a predetermined second paper storing section; and

a paper receipt unit arranged on an upper side of the paper delivery unit, for receiving papers fed from the exterior,

wherein the paper delivery unit has a third conveyance path for receiving papers from the exterior and sending the received papers to the first conveyance path meeting the third conveyance path,

and wherein the paper receipt unit has a ~~forth~~ fourth conveyance path for transmitting the papers fed from the exterior and received one by one to the third conveyance path.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 19 with the following new paragraph:

The second paper processing apparatus of the present invention has a paper receipt unit for receiving papers (receipt of money for paper moneys) that is arranged on the upper side of the paper delivery unit having the same structure as that of the first paper processing apparatus. In the second paper processing apparatus, a usable part in the mechanism of the paper delivery unit (a portion performing payment transactions in the case of ~~handling~~ handling paper moneys) may be used as it is, the paper receipt unit may have only a mechanism specific to receipt of papers, and not only paper delivery processing (payment processing for paper moneys) but also paper receipt processing (money receipt processing for paper moneys) can be carried out without increasing the cost.

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Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 15, line 4 with the following new paragraph:

Here, among these plural cassettes 211, a cassette placed on the highest position has the first storing section 211a for storing paper moneys to be paid and the second storing section 211b for storing paper moneys having difficulties with payment among the paper moneys for payment fed from these cassettes. On the other hand, the plural cassettes 211 other than the one placed on the highest position have only the first storing sections 211a for storing paper moneys to be paid. Paper moneys stored in these plural cassettes 211 are fed one by one from these cassettes. Also, in the payment unit 20, as conveyance paths for conveying paper moneys, there are the first conveyance path 21 for conveying paper moneys fed from the cassettes 211, the second conveyance path 22 for conveying paper moneys unsuitable for payment among paper moneys fed from the cassettes 211 to the second storing section 211b of the top cassette, and the third conveyance path 23 for conveying paper moneys transmitted from the payment money receipt unit 30 and sending them to the first conveyance path.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 18, line 15 with the following new paragraph:

In this consumer transaction facility, when a request for payment is received from a customer, as shown in part (A) of Fig. 2, paper moneys are fed one by one from a first storing section 211a of any of plural cassettes 211. The fed paper moneys go through the first conveyance path 21 and are discriminated by the payment discrimination section 24. And further, while paper moneys that can be paid are stored in the temporary storing section 25, paper moneys unsuitable for payment

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such as two-ply papers are led to the conveyance path 22 and stored in the second storing section 211b. In the consumer transaction facility here, necessary information processing such as communication with a host computer is carried out using the time until paper moneys of which amount meets a transaction with a customer are stored in the temporary storing section 25.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 21, line 11 with the following new paragraph:

When all the paper moneys inserted in the paper money receiving aperture 31 except for the paper moneys to be returned from the paper money returning aperture 32 are stored in the temporary storing section 25, the ~~mount~~ amount of the stored paper moneys is displayed on the display section of the operation panel 90 (refer to Fig. 1) to the customer. When the customer orders continuation of money receipt processing using the operation panel 90, the paper moneys within the temporary storing section 25 go back on the first conveyance path 21 as shown in part (A) of Fig. 3 as they are kept being stacked and then reverse the direction as shown in part (B) of Fig. 3 to go through the second conveyance path 22 so that they are stored in the second storing section 211b.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 22, line 10 with the following new paragraph:

Fig. 5 is a view showing (A) a cassette mounting box arranged in the uppermost part of the cassette mounting section 29 in the payment unit 20 of the consumer transaction facility 10 shown in Fig. 1 and (B) a cassette to be held in the cassette mounting box. Fig. 6 is a view showing a state

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that the cassette shown in part (B) of Fig. 5 is being ~~amounted~~ mounted on the cassette mounting box shown in part (A) of Fig. 5.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 26, line 25 with the following new paragraph:

The cassette mounting section 29 of the payment unit 20 of the first embodiment shown in Fig. 1 has ~~almost~~ substantially the same plural cassette mounting boxes that are vertically arranged and these cassette mounting boxes have ~~almost~~ substantially the same cassettes 211 except that only the uppermost cassette has the second storing section 211b.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 28, line 10 with the following new paragraph:

As shown on the left of part (A) in Fig. 13, in a storage-dedicated cassette mounting box 320 in part (A) of Fig. 13, there is provided a conveyance mechanism 321 forming a part of the first conveyance path of the present invention for conveying upwards paper moneys fed from the payment-dedicated cassettes 311 shown in Fig. 12. On the right of part (A) in Fig. 13, there is provided a conveyance mechanism 322 forming a part of the second conveyance path according to the present invention for conveying the paper moneys coming from above into a cassette mounted ~~[[on]]~~ in the box 320 or for transmitting them to storage-dedicated cassette mounting boxes arranged further below. The conveyance mechanism 322 rotates around a hinge 322a as the center and is lifted upwards as shown in part (A) of Fig. 13, and then a cassette 312 shown in part (B) of Fig. 13 is mounted in the direction of an arrow shown in Fig. 13.

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Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 28, line 26 with the following new paragraph:

In the cassette 312 shown in part (B) of Fig. 13, an aperture ~~[[312]]~~ 312a through which paper moneys enter is formed on the ~~[[left]]~~ right of part (B) in Fig. 13 and a shutter 313 is provided at the aperture 312a.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 29, line 2 with the following new paragraph:

When the cassette 312 shown in part (B) of Fig. 13 is mounted ~~[[on]]~~ in the cassette mounting box 320 shown in part (A) of Fig. 13 and the conveyance mechanism 322 is closed, the shutter 313 is moved to the position shown in Fig. 14 by engagement members (not shown) and the aperture 312a of the cassette 312 is opened.

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AMENDMENTS TO THE TITLE:

Please change the title to:

PAPER PROCESSING APPARATUS INCLUDING PAYMENT UNIT EQUIPPED FOR
SELECTIVE USE WITH ALTERNATIVE DETACHABLY CONNECTED RECEPTION UNITS